



SOUTHEAST NEWS

June 2017

Southeast Elementary School, 134 Warrenville Rd., Mansfield Center, CT 06250 423-2793

Dear Parents,

As the weather warms up, so do our activities at school! I am pleased to share that we just completed our fifth and final session of Enrichment Clusters for the 2017 school year. I hope you had a chance to hear about the cluster that your child selected. We worked hard this year to create meaningful products to highlight the work done in each cluster, as well as bring experts into the class. For example, the Lacrosse cluster held a recess training session for all students who were interested in learning the basics of the game. We also had puppet masters from the Ballard Institute visit our Puppet Storytelling cluster, and an architect visit our Spectacular Skyscrapers cluster. I worked on an enrichment cluster with Mrs. Cackowski and a dedicated group of young ladies. We created memorial garden for Demi Fisher called, "Demi's Happy Place" which features various plants and a fairy garden. You can find it towards the front of the school outside Mrs. Sangree's fourth grade classroom. Thank you to everyone for your donations!



June seems to be the time when I scratch my head and think, "Is that it? Is it really over already?" For me and my staff, we continue for another year. But for some of you,

we say a heartfelt goodbye. That is one of the hardest parts of creating a place that I feel is like home away from home. I don't like good-byes! We have already seen several of our Chinese families head home, and we're starting to learn of families that are moving out of district. Then, there are our fourth grade families without younger siblings, who will soon say good-bye at the end of the school year. It is a reminder that families grow and change, but are never forgotten. I want to send a sincere thank you for helping me to create the kind of community where we grow together and support each other.

And finally, thank you to all of our parent volunteers. From the PTO officers and members, to classroom volunteers, Running Club, Mileage Club and all the places in between - we couldn't do it without you!

Respectfully,
Ms. Lauren Rodriguez

Last Day of School for Grades K-4

will be

Wednesday, June 21st

School will dismiss at 12:45

Last Day for Preschool

will be

Tuesday, June 20th

School dismisses at regular time

Calendar of Events

June 1..... 9:30- Suzuki Strings performs at SE



June 2..... 2nd Grade Pen Pal Picnic
3:30-4:45 Running Club- LAST DAY

June 3..... 9:00- KidsMarathon at E.O. Smith



June 5..... 3rd Grade Field Trip to Nathan Hale
6:30- PTO Meeting

June 6..... 9:05- MMS Band visits 3rd Grade
2:00-3:20 4th Grade Wax Museum
3:30-5:00 Science Sampler



June 7..... 9:00- West African Sidiki Drum/Dance
performance assembly
3:30-4:45 Chess Club LAST DAY



June 8..... 2:30- West African Sidiki Drum/Dance
performance assembly
6:30-8:00 West African Sidiki
Drum/Dance evening gathering



June 9..... 2:20-3:15 Kindergarten Writing Celebration

June 14.... 7:00-8:30 4th Grade Moving On Ceremony

June 16.... FUN IN OUR OWN BACK YARD



June 19.... Rain date for Fun In Our Own Back Yard

June 20... **LAST DAY** for Preschool



June 21... **LAST DAY** for Grades K-4
12:45 Early Dismissal



Looking Ahead

Aug. 30.... **First Day of School for Grades K-4**
10:00-11:00 PreK Meet & Greet for AM Class
1:30-2:30 PreK Meet & Greet for PM Class

Aug. 31.... **First Day of Preschool**

Sept. 12... Open House

Oct. 14.... Fall Carnival & Silent Auction



Attendance Line/Nurse: 423-2793 Please call by 9:00 AM if your child will be absent or tardy



LOST AND FOUND

Our Lost and Found box is overflowing! We have multiple items of clothing, lunch-boxes, etc. with no names on them. Please ask your child to take a look and see if any of these items belongs to him/her.

Help us help you! Labelling your child's belongings helps us return found items to their owners.

Any items not claimed by the end of the school year will be donated to charity.

Saving the Monarchs



We have really enjoyed helping in the effort to save the monarch butterflies with our Southeast family. So many of you have planted nectar flowers and milkweed and so many of you have baked for our bake sales that raised funds for the cause.

Because we worked together, we had money to buy supplies and to donate to the monarch butterfly sanctuary in Mexico. We recently received a letter from "The Monarch Butterfly Fund" saying that for each \$100 sent, it is possible to plant 100 tree seedlings in the monarch threatened forest area of Mexico. We sent \$307! That's a lot of trees for the monarchs to rest on in the winter!

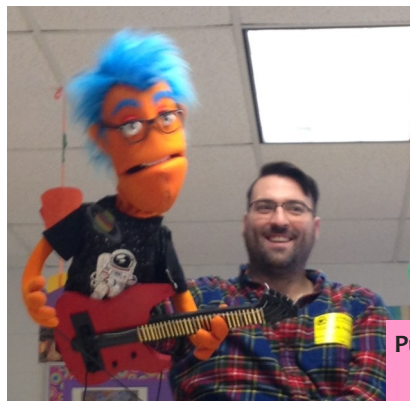
Pretty soon, we will be leaving Southeast and moving on to Mansfield Middle School. We didn't want to leave without saying thanks so much for helping us to try to save the monarchs! Please keep planting flowers and milkweed and please don't use harmful pesticides.

-Artemis, Claire, Maddie, Sarah, Simonne & Sylvie
(A.K.A. Las Maripositas)



To our parents who volunteer to help during these busy school days, and..... of course, thank you to our PTO officers this year:

Co-Presidents.....Kimberly Christenson & Susan Cote
Vice President.....Elle Ouimet
Secretary.....Sheralyn Sibilia
Treasurer.....Noreen Halbrooks



Puppet masters from the Ballard Institute visit our Puppet Storytelling cluster.

FUN IN OUR OWN BACKYARD

Friday, June 16th

Once again, Southeast Elementary School will be having **FUN IN OUR OWN BACKYARD**- a day filled with games, relays, and other activities on our school grounds.

Following our routine morning activities in classrooms, the **BACKYARD** festivities will begin at 9:30 a.m. Children will participate in games, relays, and other activities throughout the morning. At the conclusion of the morning activities, lunch and recess, children will participate in afternoon activities.

- **COMFORTABLE PLAY CLOTHES ARE SUGGESTED.** Please send your child to school dressed to be active and outside for the entire day.
- **YOUR CHILD WILL BE GETTING WET**, so *please send an extra set of play clothes*. We do not have dry clothing to give to cold, wet children.
- **SNEAKERS ARE REQUIRED** as they are for P.E., so no other shoe apparel please. Flip flops and sandals are not allowed.
- **A HAT**, if already owned, is good protection from the sun.
- **SUNSCREEN MUST BE APPLIED AT HOME.** School staff may not supply or apply sunscreen at school.

Parents are welcome and needed to help with our activities. Help is especially needed from 9:15 a.m. to noon. If you are able come and lend a hand, please send an email to betsy.parker@mansfieldct.org or call and leave your name with Betsy Parker at 860 423-2793 ext. 7658.

We are looking forward to a lot of fun and excitement at

FUN IN OUR OWN BACKYARD.

(Rain date will be Monday, June 19th)

Summer Health and Safety Ingrid Hanka, RN



As the warmer months approach, it's a great idea to start thinking about things to keep our kids healthy and safe this summer.

- * Remind your children to drink plenty of fluids. Water is the best choice to keep all of us well hydrated and feeling our best. Children should drink approximately every 20 minutes if they are participating in activities outside during the warmer weather. (American Academy of Pediatrics)



- * Sun screen is important if your child is going to be outside; 80% of lifetime sun damage occurs during childhood (melanomafoundation.org). This is why it's so important to protect your child's skin. If you expect them to be outside, you should apply sun screen lotion with an SPF rating of at least 15. Application should be liberal so that you are getting all the SPF benefits. *Please keep in mind that sunscreen cannot be applied by school staff.



- * Hornets, wasps, and other stinging insects are out again. If your child is stung, be sure to remove the stinger (the edge of a credit card can be used to scrape it out carefully). Apply ice and watch your child closely for one half hour. This is especially important if your child has never been stung before. Localized discomfort is normal. But be sure that no other symptoms such as shortness of breath, a weak rapid pulse, vomiting, or fainting occur. These may be symptoms of an anaphylactic reaction and require immediate emergency medical attention. (mayoclinic.com)



- * Water safety is important no matter what your age. Children should always be supervised during any water activities. And if they don't know how to swim, now is a great time to consider getting your child involved with swimming lessons. Lessons can be found through almost any town recreation program. They provide both you and your child with a sense of pride and safety. (Discoveryhealth.com)



For more great tips check out:

<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/news/Pages/Summer-Safety-Tips-Sun-and-Water-Safety.aspx>

This website is from the American Academy of Pediatrics and is a trusted site for health and wellness information. Everything from the common cold to problems with sleep can all be reviewed here.



Staff Appreciation Luncheon

The Southeast Staff would like to thank the PTO for all their hard work organizing the annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon in the Staff Lounge. Staff was treated to an amazing salad bar and delicious desserts, all prepared by Elle Randazzo of the new Spring Hill Cafe. It was truly a pleasant and relaxing get-away with delicious food enjoyed by all.

We would like to thank Elle for the wonderful food and all of the volunteers who helped with this event.



Want to be ready for the next school year? (Start planning in August)

All families tend to slide into new routines during the summer months. It's a more relaxing and slower pace for most families. Everyone tends to go to bed a little later, and sleep in a little longer. While this is certainly appropriate during the summer months, it can have a negative impact on the start of school if you don't plan ahead.

In general, you should start to prepare a back to school schedule at least one week in advance. This will help to give the child time to adjust to going to bed earlier and help to ensure that they are getting enough sleep. These routines should carry over into the week-end; otherwise it can have a negative effect on their wake and sleep phases. Weekend wake hours should not exceed past one hour of school day wake up times.



Bed time routines should be easy to manage and not exceed 30 minutes in duration. Extending the process can defeat the purpose of having a set bed time. As a child becomes older, they can become more independent with carrying out these routines themselves.

Following these easy steps can help to ensure a smoother transition when we all return in August. To learn more visit www.healthychildren.org.

GOT BOX TOPS?



Thank you to all families, students, and staff who continue to bring in the Box Tops for Education.

Keep those labels coming!

Don't forget to keep saving them up over the summer.

SE Running Club and KIDSMARATHON

Miss Parker, Mrs. Irvine and Señora Hutton would like to say thanks to all the parents and staff who inspired kids and supported our Southeast Running Club and Southeast Mileage Club. We also want to thank the PTO for their support and generosity. PTO funded all healthy snacks for Running Club as well as the registration fee for KIDSMARATHON. We couldn't have done it without **each and every one of you!**



Recess Mileage Club has continued to be one of the healthy recess choices of many students in Grades 1-4. Now, we even have our Kindergarten kids doing laps during their afternoon recess! The kids set personal goals and feel great about their success. **All** kids are inspired by parents and teachers who come and cheer them on as they complete laps.



Southeast Running Club had over 60 third and fourth grade members this year. Every Friday, the kids were presented with new goals and new trails. After each 10 week session, we see great growth in endurance and stamina. Increased confidence and great pleasure come with this growth!